



IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

Produced by the Bark Lake Cultural Developments

April / May 2022

Bark Lake Cultural

Developments

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Historical

@IrondaleOntario.ca

Irondale Community

Centre

Advisory Committee

of

Minden Hills Council

centre@IrondaleOntario.ca

~Rentals~

Service, Courage & Sacrifice

Each year on Remembrance Day we acknowledge those who willingly endured hardships and fears so that we could live in peace. We hope this project encourages community members to pause and reflect on the sacrifices made for our freedoms by these men and women.

We wish to introduce Irondale's service men and women to residents of Haliburton County and beyond. For the size of the village, Irondale has a significant number of individuals that have served Canada in various military aspects.

Our project "**Service, Courage & Sacrifice**" will highlight those that served their country during the week of November 5 to November 13. Each museum and/or Legion will be showcasing their own collections. BLCD will bring attention to those service men and women that have ties to Irondale. Each Irondale individual will be presented on a professionally printed flag and wrought iron stand.

We have put together a list of 50 individuals that have served Canada in various aspects of wars. We feel it is possible to obtain pictures of those individuals and represent them on the flags; arranged on the grounds of the heritage building, known affectionately as the Irondale Church.

Visitors will be encouraged to wander around the property looking at the various flags, to appreciate the magnitude of service that this village has provided. A printed brochure will be available for those attending to take home as a keepsake and to provide information about the additional events or services being offered by others with ties to Remembrance Day.

Additional displays will be offered inside the building depicting various aspects of Irondale's history for people to peruse. They can also enjoy the architecture and story of the Irondale church itself.

Your assistance is definitely vital for this project to do justice to those who served our country.

We have a list of names that we have compiled and require information on. The list starts below and continues on page two. Are we missing anyone?

How can you help?

We need a good photo of each individual as well as the required information. The photo would be loaned to us in May & June so that it can be scanned to the flag companies specifications. The photo will be returned without damage the following month.

Continued on page two

we accept
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Cash and Cheques

as well for

Event Tickets,

Donations

Reg #	Given name	Surname	Birthdate	Service notes - where, rank, etc.
	James	Allen		Russia
		Bailey		
		Bailey		
		Bailey		
		Bailey		
	Edward Joseph	Beteau	17 Jun 1879	WWI
	Allan	Brown		
	Lorne	Buckingham, Sr		
		Clark		
726005	Albert George	Curry	1 Dec 1897	Private
726004	Andrew James	Curry	4 Aug 1893	Private
726092	Russell Samuel	Curry	28 Sep 1895/6	Private, died in service

Service, Courage & Sacrifice, cont'd from page 1

To finance the project - families of the veterans to be honoured are asked to contribute to the production cost of the banner. Donations of \$50 each veteran will be appreciated. An application has been made to the Haliburton Community Development Corporation under their Local Initiative Program for funding assistance.

To see the faces of those who have served and are still serving is an honour. Any man or woman, living or deceased, who served or continues to serve Canada or its allies in a war or on a peacekeeping mission, is eligible to be honoured on a flag. It is preferred that the person have some connection to the Irondale area, whether they were born, lived here or related to a current resident.

If you can add any information to the list we have started please contact George Simmons 705-447-2679 or Carol Simmons at historical@IrondaleOntarioca or 705-457-8438. Donations will be collected when the photo is loaned to us.

Reg #	Given name	Surname	Birthdate	Service notes- where, rank, etc.
	Hammy	Davis		
	Mary Eleanor	Ferns	16 May 1923	Wireless Div 1942-1945
B505835	Edwin Dixon	Friend	31 Mar 1919	Lieut., Army died in service
726093	John William	Graham	21 Mar 1878	
726042	Joseph Marshall	Graham	29 Apr 1887	
	Kenneth	Graham		
	Jack	Graham		
	Joe	Graham		
	Frederick	Griffin	5 Mar 1889	Capt., war correspondent
	F. G.	Hancock		
	George Edward	Hancock	1907	Army
	John	Hancock		
	Joseph Henry	Hancock	1921	Navy
2622	Sidney Clarence	Hancock		Navy - joined in 1933 as a bugle boy
	W.	Hancock		
3039502	William John	Hancock	7 Dec 1897	
	Bob	Hayes		
R133631	Robert Edward	Holness	26 Apr 1920	R.C.A.F., Flight Lieut.
	Harold	Howarth		
	Gord	Kennedy		
	Eric	Kramkowski		
	Peter Kenneth	McCormick	19 Mar 1946	
	Robt. / Bruce	McGregor		
	Orie	Mintz		
	William	Mitchell		Cypres
	Harry	O'Keefe		Navy
	Mrs	O'Keefe		
	Wayne	Pantridge	1 Dec 1969	Navy - Montreal

List of Individuals continues on page 3



Tickets available online \$40 for 300, \$20 for 200, \$10 for 20, \$5 for 5

LIC#RAF1207576

Your participation in our monthly online lottery
supports local hospital and health care facilities
for priority medical equipment needs.

Service, Courage & Sacrifice cont'd from pages 1 & 2

Reg #	Given name	Surname	Birthdate	Service notes- where, rank, etc.
	Mary	Procter		R.C.A.F. - WWII - Cook/Dietician
	Wm. H.	Procter		R.C.A.F. - WWII - Radar Mechanic
	Frederick Andrew	Simmons	31 Jul 1917	Gunner - 56th battery - 6th anti tank
	James George	Simmons	7 Sept 1912	Cdn Army - 6th Anti tank, 2nd Div
	Gordon	Taylor	20 Oct 1917	
724008	Harold Gahan	Wilson	29 Dec 1893	
	George	Wilson		
C26312	James Samson	Wright	13 Sept 1921	Gunner, died in service
C492288	Happy Keith	Wright		Sgt
412968	Noble Stanley	Wright	19 May 1896/93	both WW
	Wesley ?	Wright		
	Benjamin Franklin	Wright	22 Feb 1888	Sgt 13th Battalion CEF

Please be sure to let us know if we have missed anyone. historical@IrondaleOntario.ca or call 705-457-8438



When: Saturday June 11 and Sunday June 12
 Where: 1019 Elm Rd, Historical Church Property
 What: Outdoor Event
 Time: 11 am to 4 pm each day
 What to expect: Vendors of all sorts, Children's Crafts,
 Barbeque, Displays, Information Booths

www.IrondaleOntario.ca

Trivia Answers from February / March 2022

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Bertha Wilson, 1975 | 9. Wasaga Beach |
| 2. Sorel boots | 10. Bananas |
| 3. 1996 | 11. Hamilton |
| 4. sodium bicarbonate | 12. Water |
| 5. Robert Lublum | 13. Cartilage |
| 6. Axl Rose | 14. Vinegar |
| 7. War of 1812 | 15. St. Lawrence estuary |
| 8. Juno Beach | in Quebec |

The following article appeared in the Minden Times newspaper in April 2007. It was written by Martha Perkins

Teacher returns with real history lesson Greg Simmons recently attended ceremonies in France marking the 90th anniversary of the Canadian victory in WW1.

When Greg Simmons was a student at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, his history teacher, Paul Morissette, had a way of making history seem real.

A decade later, Simmons has just returned from a country that lives and breathes its history. And he's more inspired than ever to do for his high school history students what Morissette did for him: make them care about people long dead and events long past.

"The trip definitely made the Battle of Vimy Ridge a lot more personal," the 27-year-old said a few days after returning from the ceremonies in France to make the 90th anniversary of the Canadian victory in the First World War. "It really put history into perspective."

Simmons was one of three chaperones for the 13 students from Southwood Secondary School in Cambridge who took part in the tribute to the 3,600 Canadian men who died fighting to gain control of a long and narrow ridge of land in northwestern France. One Canadian high school student for every soldier killed.

Simmons teaches history at Southwood, when a fellow teacher at the school really got behind the project, he enthusiastically joined in. After growing up in Irondale, Simmons had not yet had the opportunity to travel to Europe, where his grandfather, George Simmons Sr., had fought in the Second World War. Besides, this was no ordinary vacation. Not only would Simmons be taking part in honouring the Canadian men who died "for King and Country", but the trip would also include tours to battle sites of both world wars.

Continued on page 5



Paying It Forward —

Barbara & Reiner of Tamarack Lodge in Gooderham donated recently -
"We completely understand that not everyone has internet – some people because of the generation they belong to, others because of where they live, and neither should be penalized for it. We are very happy to help solve that by assisting with postage costs. Besides, who doesn't still love getting snail mail that is not a bill? We pick up the local newspaper every week, which we could read online but it's so much more enjoyable with a cuppa and reading each other the good parts!"
 Thank you Barbara & Reiner. Your support is much appreciated.

The Minden Times newspaper is running a series "History in the Highlands" with Adele Espina.

The following piece was in the March 9, 2022 issue and reproduced here with their permission.

Long before 1859, there had been Indigenous people who were stewards of the land that was to become Haliburton County. There were the first inhabitants.

In 1859, newly surveyed lots on either side of the Bobcaygeon Colonization Road in the townships of Anson and Minden became available for ownership. Area pioneers, some of whom were already squatting on the land, quickly applied for Crown land grants and began the process of earning title to the properties through clearing a portion of the lot, planting crops and building a house.

Today, a mural on our Minden post office commemorates three people who were 'firsts' in the village: Daniel Buck, Mary Jane Kent, and Dr. Charles D. Curry. Daniel Buck became the first postmaster in 1859. Mary Jane Kent, daughter of Francis Kent and Catherine Cameron, was said to be the first white baby born in the village, and Dr. Charles D. Curry was the first doctor to set up practice in Minden in 1869.



The 1861 census, taken just a few years after the village was established, recorded the following firsts:

On the west (Anson township) side of the Bobcaygeon Road in the village - Daniel Buck & William Watts were stonemasons, James Buck was enumerated as the tavern keeper, and Andrew Bell was the shoemaker. Buck's Tavern was said to be the location for the muti day party when the first bridge was built over the Gull River on the Bobcaygeon Colonization Road.

On the east (Minden township) side of the street, John Henderson had a store mid-block. There was also a tailor in the village named Harry Dawkins.

Other pioneers on that first local census were Francis Bowron, the teacher; William Gainer, the mill owner; Thomas Young, the miller; and a Wesleyan Methodist minister named George Henry Kenney. Mark Morrison was the first blacksmith in the early 1860s. His blacksmith shop was located on the northeast corner of Invergordon and Bobcaygeon Road. He moved out west around 1901 and sold the property to the Stinson family who ran a livery and boarding house from that location.

In Nila Reynolds' book *In Quest of Yesterday*, Benjamin Sawyer is said to have been the first hotel keeper in 1863. This hotel was located on the current Rockcliffe Tavern property. Land records show that the property was actually owned by his common law wife Margaret Humphrey who gained title to the lot in 1869. She also bought the lot just south of the hotel in 1878 for a stable. Why did they never marry? Could it be that his first wife was still alive?

Nila Reynolds also writes that Mrs. Catherine Kent, mother of Mary Jane Kent, was the first white woman to settle at Minden village in 1859. As well, she says in her book that John Shove, born in 1855, was the first white child born in Minden township.

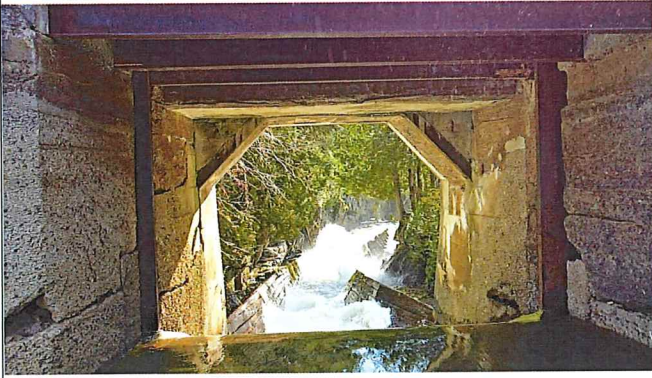
Permillia Alvina Eastman was the first recorded burial in Minden Cemetery. According to her grave marker, she was the second daughter of Soloman and Phebe Eastman and died at the young age of 15 yrs, 7 months on February 15, 1861. Her headstone survives, although it has fallen over and is sinking into the earth.

An odd claim of being first is found in Samuel Gainer's 1891 obituary in Lindsay's *The Canadian Post*. His sons are credited with this achievement: *"...(Samuel Gainer) moved to Minden about thirty-two years ago, accompanied by his wife's father and mother, bringing seven horses and rigs back with him, loaded with his family and goods, his sons being the first persons to drive a team across Gull River bridge with settlers' effect ..."*

Do you know of any other first in our village and surrounding area?



Four oldest settlers of Minden circa 1921:
 Back row - Edward Noice and Ephraim Constantine Young; Front row: Catherine Cameron Kent and Annie Young Angus. /Source: Minden Echo clipping found in the Minden Women's Institute Tweedsmuir scrapbook collection.



Hawk Lake Log Chute at Halls Lake

Once Haliburton's Most Deadly Rapid for River Drivers
— Now a Popular Tourist Attraction

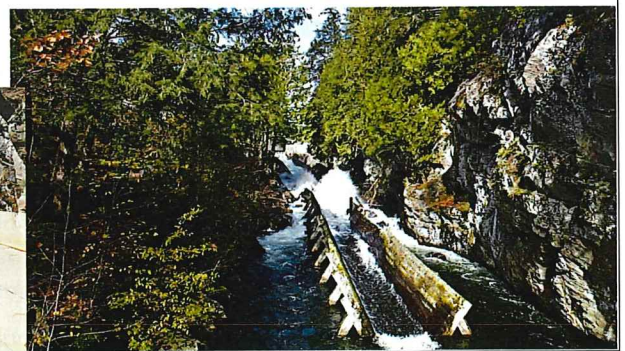
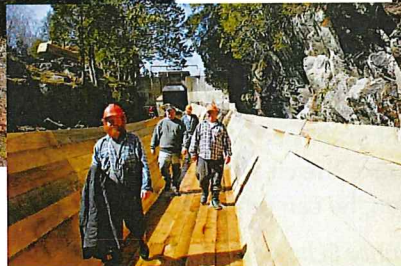
By the 1870s the virgin pine forests had been cutover in most of the Trent Watershed south of Kinmount (except Nogies Creek), and Haliburton was becoming the source of most of the logs for sawmills as far away as Trenton. The most perilous part of river driving was clearing log jams, which typically occurred at rapids. A volunteer would go out on the moving mass of logs, pry free the one that was holding the jumble together, then try to scramble back to shore (without slipping on the slimy wet logs) before getting swept with the logs through the rapids. 13 river drivers were killed at the Hawk River Rapids, the most of any site in Haliburton County. They were typically buried in graves, perhaps marked with a wooden cross (now unmarked) nearby on the shore.

Log chutes made river driving much easier and safer, and there has been a log chute on the Hawk River since the 1870s.

Originally operating with a wooden dam, the present concrete structure was built in 1928-29. The last sizeable drive took place in 1947, as the Hodgson-Jones Lumber Company took their logs to Hall's Lake. For years the ruins of the timber slide remained on the Hawk River, but beginning in 1999 the structure was restored, including a park and nature paths. The new log chute was built by 9 men in 9 days using chainsaws and sledgehammers (there was no power on site). The grand opening took place in 2005, and the structure survived 2013 flood, but was damaged in spring, four year later. Considering the never-ending repairs that many different levels of government made to the log slides over the years, it is an authentic viewing experience that the structure is not in pristine condition.



Story & pictures compliments of
www.facebook.com/MaryboroLodge



How well do you know your Canadian Trivia?

- 1) Who became Canada's first woman Supreme Court Chief Justice? And when? **Beverley McLachlin in 2000**
- 2) What boots were introduced by Kitchener company Kaufman Footware? **Sorel boots**
- 3) What year was the Canadian \$2 bill discontinued? **1996**
- 4) What is the main ingredient in baking powder? **Baking soda**
- 5) Who wrote the novels 'The Bourne Identity' and 'The Bourne Supremacy'? **Robert Ludlum**
- 6) What Guns N' Roses member's real name is William Bailey? **Axl Rose**
- 7) In what war was Sir Isaac Brock killed at Queenston Heights near Niagara Falls? **War of 1812**
- 8) On what beach did Canadians land in D-Day attacks in 1944? **Juno Beach**
- 9) What Ontario beach is the world's largest fresh water beach? **Wasaga Beach**
- 10) What is considered the top-selling grocery item at Walmart? **Bananas**
- 11) What Ontario city is nicknamed 'Steeltown' or 'The Hammer'? **Hamilton**
- 12) What is called the 'universal solvent' because it dissolves many substances? **Water**
- 13) What rubbery material acts as a cushion between human bone joints? **Cartilage**
- 14) What common ingredient could dissolve pearls because of its acetic acid? **Vinegar**
- 15) What is the southern most spot in Canada to find Beluga whales? **St. Lawrence Estuary**

Well ??? How did you do?

Directions - Take Hwy #35 North, 11 kms past Hwy #118 intersection, turn right on Little Hawk Lake Rd, then left of Big Hawk Lake Rd. The chute is on your right close to the end of the road.
Enjoy!

Teacher returns with real history lesson cont'd from page 5

Of course the trick was not to have Canadian guns killing Canadian soldiers. The men practised what became known as the Vimy Glide: barely lifting their feet, the men shuffled forward at a pace of 100 yards every three minutes. Behind the, the guns' positions were timed so that the shells would always be landing in front of them.

Although a staggering 3,600 young Canadians were killed in the four days it took to secure the top of the ridge, the number is far less than the 50,000 Canadians who died in the first day of battle at the Somme.

Succeeding where others had failed, relying only on Canadian intelligence and courage alone, helping the Allies win back part of France - Canadians in Europe and at home knew that something special had just happened. In Europe the victory gave Canadians more of a voice with their British counterparts. At home the victory gave Canadians a much-needed sense of pride. Many trace the birth of Canadian nationhood to the battle.

Simmons says it's not just in hindsight we realize how important the victory at Vimy was, both strategically & psychologically. Right after the war, plans were made to build a monument to the fallen Canadians at Vimy. The monument was 'unveiled' in 1936, although it's hard to unveil a series of statues that are such a dominating presence on the landscape.

The French government had closed down all the roads leading to Vimy when Simmons and the busloads of Canadian students began their pilgrimage to the site. "It's gigantic," Simmons says of the main monument. "You can see it from 20 miles away. It's very impressive. Awe inspiring."

The figure that people can from so far away is Canada grieving over her loss. At her feet is a second monument representing the grave for the fallen; all around them are statues representing the ideals they fought for - justice, faith, hope.

No one could remain untouched by the sight. But what make the visit even more moving was a ceremony at the nearby gravesite. With one high school student representing one soldier killed, everyone had a stunning image of how many men had given up their lives here.

"When you got all 3,600 students in the ceremony, it made a dramatic statement, especially when they were exiting, it took so long," Simmons says. Before that it was hard to have a concept of what the numbers meant. "It was one of the greatest eye-openers for them. Then they started walking up the ridge, which today is partly reforested. Imagine making the climb with guns bearing down on you from atop the ridge.

While the Canadian media reported on many of the glitches of the trip, Simmons was oblivious to any of the controversy. He was nothing but impressed with the trip's organization, the welcome they received and the spirit of the land. In many towns French residents were gathered in the town square to wave flags at the passing buses. Newspapers had full page ads detailing the ceremony and inviting the French to take part. The museum and monument displays were meticulously cared for. He was particularly touched by a large mural of poppies in Ypres, site of another major battle for the Canadians. The inscription read: It achieves little except loss.

This may have been an educational holiday for the young Canadians but the French live with constant reminders of their history, Simmons says. Every year two farmers die when their equipment hits an unexploded shell buried under the ground for 90 yrs. Parts of the countryside resemble mogul hills, the large craters a constant reminder of where the shells fell. You can't travel 10 kilometres without coming across another cemetery for the war dead. "They live history there," Simmons says, and it's not just "recent" history such as the First World War. In Caen you feel the presence of Roman kings; throughout Normandy there are reminders of medieval wars.

He was also caught up in the more recent history of the Second World War. Packed amongst his belongings were pictures of his father's father. In 1942, George Simmons was already in his 30s when he left the hamlet of Irondale to join the Allies in Europe, another world away. Although Greg was not able to visit every place where his grandfather had had his picture taken, he was able to stand in the same spot as George's friend and fellow soldier—right outside the grand palace of Versailles.

"To see a city like Paris when all they've seen is Irondale must have been mind-boggling," Simmons says. Just as he brought photos of his grandfather with him to France, Simmons returned home with a memento of the ceremony honouring the sacrifice of Canadian soldiers. He is going to donate his Vimy pilgrimage pin to the Kinmount Legion, where some of his grandfather's memories of war are on display.

Now that he's back at his classroom in Cambridge Simmons is more determined than ever to honour the memory of fallen soldiers, as well as his former teacher's ability to make the circumstances of their sacrifices real. He will make his students care about the past. Whenever he needs inspiration, he can remember his own Vimy.

Thank you to the Haliburton County Echo and Minden Times for allowing us to reproduce this article.

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BINGO

7	20	35	47	72
12	16	42	42	61
1	19	★	60	74
5				68

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Irondale Events advertise in these local papers -
available at most stores across the county.



PLEASE FOLLOW US www.facebook.com/IrondaleOntario and VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.IrondaleOntario.ca

Irondale Events are advertised in these local papers - available at most stores across the county.



~ Irondale Calendar of Events ~

**These are tentative dates - depends on state of Covid pandemic and rental of community centres.
Please be sure to check the appropriate website and/or Facebook pages to get up to date information**

2022	Unless otherwise noted - Tickets available online at www.IrondaleOntario.ca or call/text 705-457-8438
Sat. May 7	Dinner held at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open 5pm. Dinner at 6pm. Menu still be planned. Loonie auction after dessert. \$20 pp <i>B.L.C.D. event, supporting Irondale's history</i>
Sat. June 11 Sun. June 12	Welcome Back! We are celebrating with our Spring Fling . 11am - 4pm Vendors, BBQ, displays, tours—1019 Elm Rd - on the property of Irondale's historical church building. NO ADMISSION CHARGED.
Sun. June 12	First Church Service - visiting Minister expected. 10 am. Come as you are, stay for refreshments and enjoy the afternoon with the Spring Fling vendors.
Sat. July 16	Concert on the Lake - Great music from the comfort of your own boat, canoe or paddleboard. Music starts at 6:30pm Tickets available in advance. Check www.sdlca.ca for more details. Please note this is a new date
Sat. July 23	Wild Game Dinner - Popular dinner, held at the Gooderham Community Centre . Doors open 5pm, buffet at 6pm. All game served as bite size pieces, you can sample it all. Remember bring loonies for after dinner fun. <i>B.L.C.D. event, support Irondale's history</i>
July TBD	Salerno Devil's Lake Cottage Association's Canoe Race, BBQ and Children's Games Salerno Devil's Lake Cottage Association's AGM check www.sdlca.ca for up to date information.
Fri. Aug 19 Sat. Aug 20	Irondale Inspirations - the artists that call Irondale home/cottage will be showcasing their work at the historical Irondale church. 10 am to 4pm. Please drop by, enjoy their talents. You may just catch one or more of them creating on site.

www.hhhsf5050.ca

We Know

**You're itchin' for
warm weather to
get in your
gardens.....**

Please resist the urge to clean up your gardens until temperatures are consistently above 10C (50F). Many pollinators are overwintering in the dead leaves and hollow stems of last year's plants. If you clear these now, you will literally be throwing away this year's butterflies, bees and other beneficial pollinators.

